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ABSTRACT

The African-American Materials Project was a three year venture in bibliographic control of African-American materials. It was a regional project, designed to locate and describe materials in six Southern states. The project was divided into three periods. Phase I was devoted to locating existing collections through the use of a questionnaire, preparing checklists to aid in the search for specific items, and beginning to locate newspapers, periodicals, and bibliographies. During Phase II substantial progress was made toward locating manuscripts and archives, theses, oral histories, and pre-1950 imprints. Phase III activities included completion and distribution of a consortium list of materials purchased with a Special Purpose Grant and submission of a manuscript to a publisher. It is hoped that this project will serve as a model for other regional ventures or as a nucleus for a national project. (Author/WH)

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Final Report

Project No. 1-0715B
Grant No. 0-71-3890

African - American Materials Project
Experiment in Regional Cooperation

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July 1974

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Office of Education
Bureau of Libraries and Learning Resources

ABSTRACT

The African-American Materials Project is a three-year venture in bibliographic control of African-American materials. It began in June 1971. It is a six-state regional project, designed to locate and describe materials in the southern states of Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. One state coordinator in each state is in charge of conducting the search for materials in his area. The project is divided into three periods. Phase I was devoted to locating existing collections through the use of a questionnaire, preparing checklists to aid in the search for specific items, and beginning to locate newspapers, periodicals, and bibliographies.

During Phase II substantial progress was made toward locating manuscripts and archives, theses, oral histories, and pre-1950 imprints. A Special Purpose Grant of $25,000 was received to assist five of the participants in the cooperative acquisition of black materials in specific subject areas.

Phase III activities included completion and distribution of a consortium list of materials purchased with the Special Purpose Grant and submission of the manuscript of Black American Writers, 1773-1949 to the publishing firm G. K. Hall & Co. The participants of the project have discovered valuable resources in their areas, have been able to organize their collections and have shared their experiences with others. It is hoped that this project will serve as a model for other regional ventures or as a nucleus for a national project.

I. Introduction

The North Carolina Central University School of Library Science was awarded grants totaling $157,942 by the U. S. Office of Education for a project to identify and coordinate African-American materials in six states. The project began on July 1, 1971 and ended on June 30, 1974.

There are rich African-American resources in the United States that have not received the attention needed to identify and organize them adequately. Librarians in predominantly black institutions have struggled to collect and maintain these materials with little moral, financial, or personnel support. Other libraries or institutions have valuable information that has been ignored or undiscovered, because of insufficient staff interest, or because of the low priority given to such activities. Few, if any, institutions have a program for the consistent search for and solicitation of materials.

A centralized program to locate, coordinate, and disseminate information about African-Americans in the United States is imperative if an accurate record is to be preserved. Many valuable documents have already been destroyed, because the owners were not made aware of their value and librarians did not know of their existence or were not in a position to locate and acquire them.

Some current materials are being published inaccurately and indiscriminately, because of lack of documents for verification and evaluation. There is duplication of effort, because of lack of knowledge of activities that either have been done or that are in progress. In spite of the current proliferation of publications, however, there are still gaps in the literature.

A nation-wide attack upon this problem is financially impossible at this time, and questions have been raised about the feasibility of such an undertaking. This project, including six adjoining states with some of the most outstanding collections, could serve as a pilot study which might result eventually in national control of African-American materials. Moreover, it is the first known attempt to control African-American materials on a regional basis. It is the first opportunity that black and Southern librarians have had to participate in a cooperative effort to identify and coordinate their African-American resources.

II. Methodology

A. Organization of the Project

Headquarters for the project was established in the James E. Shepard Memorial Library at North Carolina Central University with a staff consisting of the Director, Associate Director, and Library Assistant (Appendix 1). Student assistants and additional clerical personnel provided intermittent assistance.

The six states to be included in the Project (Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia) were selected because of their rich holdings in African-American materials and also because of their proximity to North Carolina. A librarian associated with an institution in each of the states (Atlanta University, Fisk University, Hampton Institute, North Carolina Central University, South Carolina State College, Tuskegee Institute) was asked to serve as a coordinator to identify materials, relay information to headquarters, and coordinate activities. The full roster of participants or coordinators is given in Appendix 1.

The Director of the Project and the six state coordinators served without financial remuneration in order to use as much of the money as possible for the actual identification of resources.

The staff, six participants, and the following consultants met for a planning session in August 1971:

Mr. Winston Broadfoot
Director, Flowers Collection
Duke University, Durham, N. C.

Dr. William Farrison
Professor Emeritus
North Carolina Central University

Mr. Wayne Mann
University Archivist
Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo

Mrs. Dorothy B. Porter
Librarian, Negro Collection
Howard University, Washington, D. C.

Dr. Mattie Russell
Curator, Manuscripts
Duke University, Durham, N. C.

The staff and six participants met a second time in 1971/72 and three times in 1972/73 to review and plan. An advisory committee of three participants (Casper Jordan, Annie King, Jessie Smith) met with the staff twice in 1973/74 after funds were reduced. One of these, Mr. Casper L. Jordan, served as Editor of Project products.

B. Location and Identification of Materials

The first action taken by the participants was to send a letter to the presidents of their own institutions stressing the need for the orderly collection and preservation of archives.

Another decision was to begin the search for materials by locating and describing existing collections. A questionnaire was developed by the group (Appendix 2). Each state coordinator assumed responsibility for compiling a state list of libraries, archives and private collections; sending copies of the questionnaire to them; and reporting the results to headquarters. Using all available directories and other sources, the state coordinators mailed 1,289 copies of the questionnaire.

One questionnaire was not sufficient to get the number of responses nor the information desired (Appendix 3). A questionnaire was developed to obtain additional information about newspapers and periodicals, manuscripts, and pre-1950 imprints; and to include theses and oral history records (Appendices 4-6). Other methods used to gather information included making telephone calls and personal visits and sending follow-up letters.

The next step was to ask for a report of the holdings in the 250 institutions which indicated that they had materials. Types of materials to be located and the schedule agreed upon for initiating searches were: 1971/72 - newspapers, periodicals, bibliographies; 1972/73 - pre-1950 imprints, theses, manuscripts and archives; 1973/74 - oral history records and art objects.

The participants expressed the need for assistance in identifying African-American materials, particularly black authors. Satisfactory sources for accomplishing this task were not discovered. The major bibliographies are usually selective: by subject, historical period, or form. The published book catalogs are excellent sources of information; however, they are usually in more than one volume, expensive, not generally found in all libraries, and could not be economically made available for checking purposes. Lists of periodicals and newspapers were even more difficult to find. Titles were gathered from bibliographies, directories, and publishers' catalogs. The Associate Director succeeded in compiling a list of 16,000 authors of pre-1950 imprints and 1000 titles of periodicals and newspapers that could be used for searching.

Errors, omissions, and inconsistencies in these lists were expected. The lists were compiled quickly and sources used for citations are not completely reliable. However, most of the participants used these aids, and assisted headquarters in correcting and expanding the lists. Reluctance to use the author checklist was reported by the Virginia coordinator.

A considerable number of respondents sent lists of their holdings after receiving the questionnaire or being contacted in other ways. However, others indicated that they needed assistance in identifying African-American materials or in searching. The finding lists were sent to those who needed them. Visits were made to as many of the other institutions as possible. It is estimated that another two years would have been needed to visit all of the libraries that made requests. This phase of the project had to be curtailed in June 1973.

Variations of the standardized survey techniques that were utilized by the participants are:

1. There were opportunities to check large union catalogs at Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia and at Joint University Libraries, Nashville.

2. A copying machine was very useful in reproducing cards and other information at Atlanta University.

3. The Atlanta Center Coordinator consulted Dissertation Abstracts and sent cards to headquarters for dissertations reported for graduate schools in the six states.

4. A statewide network including Knoxville, LeMoyne, and Lane colleges was developed to locate and solicit materials in Tennessee.

5. A librarians' workshop was held to stimulate interest in the Project in South Carolina.

6. An inventory of materials in the black colleges of Alabama had already been made and this facilitated searching there.

7. Acquisition of oral history records was more advanced in Alabama and in Tennessee because of grants from other sources.

8. A Checklist of "Black Subject Headings" was developed at South Carolina State College to expedite time in checking the card catalog.

Students, paraprofessional workers and librarians worked for the Project in the six institutions in a variety of ways:

	1971/72	1972/73
Alabama	Archivist (part-time) Assistant Archivist (part-time) Coordinator (10 percent) 4 student assistants	Archivist (part-time) Assistant Archivist (part-time) Coordinator (10 percent) 1 Library assistant 4 student assistants
Georgia	Coordinator (5 percent) Students	Coordinator (5 percent) Students
North Carolina	Coordinator (8 percent) 1 Librarian (15 percent) 2 Librarians (10 percent) 2 Student assistants	Coordinator (8 percent) 1 1/2 Library assistants 2 Student assistants
Tennessee	Coordinator (10 percent) 1 Librarian (15 percent)	Coordinator (10 percent) 1 Library assistant

Virginia divided the work by departments: questionnaires and letters were sent by the Circulation Department, analysis of the questionnaires and follow-ups were made by the Periodical Department, and the Cataloging Department is working on the pre-1950 imprints. South Carolina designated the work as follows: pre-1950 imprints - Black Collection and Acquisitions Librarian; Bibliographies - Catalog - Circulation Librarian; Serials - Periodical Librarian; Archives and Manuscripts - Reference Librarian.

C. Organization of Materials

Standardized entries and symbols of the institutions were adopted for reporting holdings. The state coordinators received reports from the individual libraries and sent them to headquarters where individual items were organized according to type of material.

The ideal procedure was to receive from the state coordinator a card for each item with the correct entry, a full bibliographical description, and location symbols. However, entry cards were sometimes made at headquarters when lists, bibliographical guides, commencement programs, and other citations were received. When union lists were finally compiled, there was one card for each item on which the various location symbols had been recorded.

At headquarters the files of combined holdings were arranged by title for periodicals and newspapers; by author for bibliographies and guides, manuscripts and archives, and pre-1950 imprints; and by subject for theses.

D. Related activities

The Project was announced originally through news releases from headquarters and state centers. Other news articles have appeared in the general press and in professional journals. Longer articles appeared in the ALA Black Caucus Newsletter and North Carolina Libraries. (Appendix 7)

Communication with AAMP participants was largely through newsletters and memoranda. In addition to Project news, information concerning similar projects and activities was disseminated in an effort to coordinate them as much as possible. A descriptive brochure was developed in 1973 and distributed widely.

Miss Matthews and Miss Hall attended institutes at Fisk University in 1972/73 and in 1973/74 which gave them opportunities to exchange ideas with others interested in the control of African-American materials and to acquaint them with the Project.

Miss Matthews presented an oral report on the purpose of the Project at a minority publishers' meeting during the American Library Association Convention in Chicago in 1972. Formal written and oral testimony was given to the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science at the Southeast Regional Hearing in Atlanta in March 1973 by Mrs. Phinazee. (Appendix 8) She discussed current projects and made suggestions for future activities at an Institute for Training Librarians for Special Black Collections and Archives at Alabama State University, Montgomery, on April 14, 1973. Mrs. Phinazee also described AAMP's experiences at a conference to develop a national plan for the control of African- American Materials that was held in Atlanta in October, 1973.

Five of the participating institutions (Fisk University, Hampton Institute, North Carolina Central University, South Carolina State College, and Tuskegee Institute) received a $25,000 Special Purpose Grant (or $5,000 each) under the Higher Education Act, Title II-A in 1972/73. The purpose of the grant was to purchase expensive and infrequently used materials by and about black people in specific subject areas (Appendix 9) Purchase lists were forwarded to headquarters and a consortium list was prepared. As a reference tool this work informs the user of the location of the title, whether the purchased title is an original or reprint edition, and gives the publisher and original date of publication.

Efforts were made to identify similar projects and activities and to coordinate activities if possible. Projects have been identified as follows:

BRICS - Black Research Information Coordinating Service, Inc. Miss E. A. Copeland, Tallahassee, Florida.

Black Oral History Program - Fisk University (National Endowment for the Humanities)

CEMBA - Collection and Evaluation of Materials About Black Americans ACHE William Caynon, Jr., Coordinator, Birmingham, Alabama.

The Chicago Afro-American Union Analytic Catalog: An Index to Materials on the Afro-American in the Principal Libraries of Chicago. This union catalog contains over 75,000 entries including books, periodicals, theses and other forms of materials. The catalog was developed between 1938 and 1940 and has been published by G. K. Hall and Company.

Duke University, Oral History Program, Dr. Lawrence Goodwyn.

Kinte Library Project of Black Heritage and Genealogy, San Francisco, California.

Schomburg/National Endowment for the Humanities, New York Public Library.

W. E. B. DuBois Institute for Afro-American Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

III. Results

Librarians and the public responded well to the Project. Telephone calls, letters, and personal conversations indicated their interest in giving and receiving information. A considerable portion of the Associate Director's time was spent in answering questions about African-American materials. Several collections were given to libraries in the six states as a result of their participation in the Project.

The state coordinators reported the discovery of valuable resources in their states - more than was anticipated. They discovered that published lists of repositories are not complete and that comprehensive local searching and reporting are necessary if the goal of complete control of African-American holdings in the six states is to be achieved.

A. Questionnaires

Questionnaires did not suffice for obtaining the information needed to complete this inventory. Only 47 percent, or 677, of the 1,829 persons who were contacted responded. The highest number of returns (306 of 319) was received from Virginia. More academic librarians (115) reported that they have African-American materials than any other type of library. No materials were reported by 423 librarians and 188 of these were in public libraries. (Appendices 2-6)

B. Searching

Different types of searchers - students, workers in the particular libraries, librarians - used the Project checklists for periodicals and newspapers and, especially, for pre-1950 imprints successfully. Use of the author list was essential in identifying materials when they were not recorded as a separate collection.

It was very helpful when permission was given to machine copy catalog or shelflist cards. However, most librarians were not willing to have the cards taken from the files. Copying the cards by hand was a slow and unsatisfactory process, but much of the information was gathered in this way.

C. Holdings

Periodicals and newspapers - Very little has been done to identify periodicals and newspapers. The lists by Armstead S. Pride and by Warren H. Brown (Checklist of Negro Newspapers in the United States, 1827-1946) were used to identify newspapers. The unpublished Ph.D.

dissertation of Penelope Bullock ("The Negro Periodical Press in the United States, 1838-1909") and the book catalogs of Howard University were most helpful in verifying periodical entries.

The need to publish a union list of periodicals and newspapers was discovered. This list can be helpful in verifying titles, locating items, and filling gaps.

The periodicals found most often in the libraries are Ebony, Jet, The Journal of Negro History, The Negro History Bulletin, and The Journal of Negro Education. There are serious gaps in holdings.

Manuscripts and archives - Reporting and arrangement of manuscripts and archives is very uneven. In some instances the materials are in the libraries, but they have not been processed sufficiently to make them accessible. Librarians have worked diligently to collect and preserve these materials, however, they were frequently not able to give priority to processing them.

Pre-1950 imprints - About one-third of the titles that have been cited in a Project list were not located in the six states. On the other hand, the search for such titles was not completed. Very little was done in this area in Virginia. All of the libraries that participated did not make full reports, and there are others that did not respond to requests for information. The largest libraries, which probably have the most extensive holdings, do not have separate collections. Their catalogs will have to be searched with the author checklist in order to make a true inventory. An actual author check was not made in any of the very large university libraries. Using this method and copying the cards by hand would have consumed more time than was available through June 30, 1973. The coordinators in South Carolina and Tennessee chose key subject headings, then used the author checklist to identify African-American materials in the catalogs of the Joint University Libraries in Nashville, the University of South Carolina Library, Columbia, and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Some authors were found in the catalogs, but not in the checklist. When this happened titles and authors were recorded and sent to headquarters.

There is a union catalog of holdings within the state at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on cards and on microfilm. A microfilm copy is also at Duke University. This is a source that may be used in the future to locate pre-1950 imprints without visiting all of the libraries contributing to this catalog.

Theses - Only a few predominantly black institutions in the six states offer graduate work. Atlanta and Fisk Universities have produced the largest number of master's theses. A considerable number of doctoral level students have researched "the black experience." The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has produced the largest number of works for, perhaps, the longest time.

Reporting of doctoral studies is adequate through the usual bibliographical sources. Masters theses lists are usually limited to the individual institutions.

Oral history records - Fisk University had an opportunity to develop holdings in this area on a national scale through a National Endowment for the Humanities grant. Participants in the Project were able to learn more about this area through an institute that Fisk sponsored. Tuskegee is participating in identifying these records on a state-wide level through a project called CEMBA (Collection and Evaluation of Materials about Black Americans) and therefore could provide a coordinated report for this state. Most of the projects are in the early stages of development.

D. State perspectives

Alabama - Black colleges in this state have organized, made an inventory, and are attempting to work together to acquire the resources that they need to support their curricula. The coordinator received good cooperation from the white universities and it would be possible to make a comprehensive report of holdings in this state if money were available to continue the project. Tuskegee Institute has the outstanding separate collection in this state. Talladega College does not maintain a separate collection, but has reported interesting items from a recently organized archives collection. Outstanding holdings in the state are for the slavery period. The State Department of Archives and History has a distinctive collection of newspapers. The holdings of public libraries in this state appear to be scant.

Georgia - The one outstanding separate collection in this state is at Atlanta University. There are published catalogs of its imprints and manuscripts. None of the other black or white academic institutions appear to be collecting seriously. There are some materials in the state archives, but efforts to make them accessible began very recently. The University of Georgia and Emory University have not made any effort to document the black experience. This means that efforts to identify their holdings must be done by meticulous checking. This process was begun when the union catalog at Emory University was checked, but this inventory is limited to imprints, excluding valuable manuscripts.

The Atlanta Public Library has a special collection recently organized, and there are small collections at former Negro branches in other public library systems. Strength appears to be in anti-slavery materials.

North Carolina - Inventory of the vast resources of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and of Duke University were relatively untapped by this Project. There are no separate collections and the huge catalogs will have to be searched. Adequate reports of the important manuscript collections at these two universities were provided. Several of the black colleges have good, separate collections. North Carolina Central University purchased the Martin Collection as a nucleus for its holdings. The Richard B. Harrison Branch of the Wake County Public Library has one of the strongest public library collections in the six states. The collection was named for its founder, Mollie Huston Lee, when she retired.

South Carolina - Five of the six other Black colleges in this state cooperated with South Carolina State College to describe their collections. An extensive list of holdings was furnished by the State Department of Archives. University of South Carolina personnel cooperated with the coordinator in checking their catalog for imprints. No report of manuscripts was given. The most sensational event which occurred during the Project was the discovery of holdings of the Old Slave Mart Museum in Charleston. Efforts are being made to have these valuable papers processed and preserved.

Tennessee - Fisk University has the most comprehensive separate collection in this state. A catalog of the holdings is being prepared for publication. A blues and gospel collection at Memphis State University was discovered. Initiation of an archives collection at Meharry Medical College was reported. No public library collections were mentioned although 21 of 36 were cited as having African-American materials.

Virginia - Hampton Institute has one of the oldest and largest separate collections in the nation. Reports from this coordinator during the first year of the Project indicated that the state was already well organized. Returns from the questionnaire were excellent and so was the report on periodical and newspaper holdings. Rich holdings at Hampton and at other institutions, including the University of Virginia, were discovered and reports were expected. Unfortunately reports in the last two years of the Project were disappointing. Cooperation was not received from other libraries to report pre-1950 imprints. Communication with this state was not maintained in 1973/74.

IV. Conclusions

A workable plan for gaining bibliographical control of African-American materials in these six states has been developed at relatively low cost. It has been well received by librarians and by laymen, and there is evidence that the Project could have been concluded successfully in two more years. After its completion it could either have been affiliated with other regional centers or merged into a national center. It is possible that a national center could complete the work in these six states, however, there is the problem of finding sufficient funds.

Accomplishments of the Project are:

A. Prepared the following bibliographical tools:

1. A finding list of over 1000 black periodicals and newspapers was compiled and disseminated to the participants to be used in searching titles.

2. A list of 1060 black periodicals and newspapers was compiled, locations and holdings added. It can be used to identify gaps in holdings in the six states, to locate holdings elsewhere, and to fill the gaps. It is also hoped that errors in the list will be corrected, so that a more complete list of titles than now exists will be made available. The Union List of Serials was used as a model for format. The compilation contains a cross-section of publications: fraternal, religious, daily and weekly papers, educational, and scholarly journals. The work has been submitted to a publisher for consideration.

3. The Hampton staff prepared and distributed A Union List of Black Periodicals and Newspapers in Virginia.

4. An alphabetical checklist of 16,000 authors of pre-1950 imprints was compiled and given to the participants to use in searching titles.

5. Black American Writers, 1773-1949 lists 1,600 authors, includes a maximum of three titles for each author, and locates the titles reported to be within the region. It is arranged by the Dewey Classification. G. K. Hall & Co. agreed to publish the bibliography and copyright authorization was approved. The manuscript was submitted to G. K. Hall on April 15, 1974. The list is scheduled for release in the fall of 1974.

6. A consortium list of the titles purchased by the five participants who received the $25,000 grant was produced. The list was distributed to the participants and has been submitted to ERIC.

7. A union list of over 9,200 theses produced in the six states has been compiled. The AAMP staff worked diligently on the list, but completed only 75 percent of the typing before the Project expired. The regular staff of the School of Library Science will continue efforts to complete and publish this list.

B. Made significant progress toward identifying institutions in the six states that have or do not have African-American materials. Approximately 280 are known to have them. Information concerning those not having materials can be used in planning for the future.

C. Promoted the development and expansion of archival programs in the six participating institutions and influenced others, such as Talladega College and Meharry Medical College.

D. Initiated a cooperative acquisitions consortium of five of the institutions to purchase expensive and infrequently used African-American materials with $25,000 (Special Purpose Grant under Higher Education Act, Title II-A).

E. Made significant progress toward identifying and recording holdings of periodicals, newspapers, unpublished bibliographies and guides, manuscripts and archives, theses, and pre-1950 imprints. No comparable records of these holdings are known to exist. Inquiries made to headquarters indicate that a source of such information does contribute to research. Over 34,650 imprint title cards and 3,500 periodical and newspaper title cards were received.

F. Contributed toward the stimulation of increased interest and competence in the preservation and use of African-American materials. South Carolina, Virginia, and the Atlanta University students seemed to benefit most from these experiences.

G. Provided another source of information about these materials through the establishment of the AAMP headquarters which received and responded to numerous inquiries - demonstrating the need for a national clearinghouse or center. Requests have not been confined to the southeastern region.

H. Provided the vehicle for the location of a number of materials, persons, and other resources that have enriched the individual libraries and institutions. Fisk, North Carolina, and South Carolina reported the most benefits in this area.

I. Tested techniques for locating and organizing materials that will be of value to persons who wish to organize similar projects. Contributions to the discussions of a national plan are evidence to support this statement.

J. Organized records so that it will be possible to prepare a union list of manuscripts and archives, or to transmit information concerning them. Cards for the pre-1950 imprints are also organized in this manner, however, it is hoped that the census of holdings will be more nearly completed before a list is released.

Tasks not accomplished include:

A. Completion of the survey of institutions - 53 percent did not respond.

B. Completion of the report of holdings of pre-1950 imprints.

C. Verification of many of the periodical, especially African, title entries.

D. Full participation from the state of Virginia which has rich holdings.

E. Identification of bibliographical works within the six states that deserve publication.

F. Identification of art objects in these states.

A plan which combines a geographic unit with types and/or subjects of materials appears to be the most effective way to control African-American materials. Organizing at the state level appears to be the most feasible way to search for materials, while regional or national units would coordinate and disseminate information more efficiently.

Some method other than a questionnaire needs to be found to locate repositories not listed in available sources and to get responses from the librarians who did not provide input for this inventory.

Libraries not having African-American materials should be encouraged to purchase them.

The catalogs, shelflists, or other records of certain libraries will have to be searched if this inventory is to be completed. It is better if the search can be made by persons who are familiar with the library, but it is possible for others (even students) to make the search if they are instructed and supervised properly.

The participants, and others who are respected in the profession, feel that the Project has been a success and should be continued. The purpose was to prove that there is a vast corpus of untapped material in these six states, and this has been demonstrated. The group is committed to completing the regional study and implementing a national center.

An effort should be made to have available in the region as many resources as possible. At least one copy of the pre-1950 imprints should be available. Complete sets of periodicals and newspapers should be obtained and strategically located. Accomplishing these goals involves making realistic plans to describe the existing holdings, to locate the items needed, and to reproduce them. An extensive microform project should be inaugurated.

Manuscript holdings must be given the needed attention to widen the awareness of their presence and to increase their use. A campaign should be launched to persuade prominent black Americans who were born or who lived in these six states to contribute to the development of these collections.

Some method must be found to broaden the bibliographical control of masters theses.

The efforts of the last three years should not be wasted. A system for continuing to report holdings should be developed. Non-participating librarians should be encouraged to report on their holdings. Funds to continue the work should be obtained.

Appendix 1

AAMP STAFF

Director	Annette L. Phinazee
Associate Director, 1971-1973	Geraldine O. Matthews
Assistant Director, 1973-1974	Carol J. Hall
Library Assistant	Helena M. Wynn

PARTICIPANTS

Atlanta University	Casper L. Jordan, Editor Associate Professor
Fisk University	Jesse C. Smith University Librarian
Hampton Institute	Fritz Malval, 1971-1972 Librarian Jason C. Grant, III, 1972-1974 Librarian
North Carolina Central University	Pennie Perry, 1971-1972 Chief Librarian Sadie Hughley, 1972-1974 Acting Librarian
South Carolina State College	Lillie S. Walker Acting Librarian
Tuskegee Institute	Annie G. King Librarian

Appendix 2

INSTITUTION_____

LIBRARY_____

CITY_____STATE_____ZIP_____

PHONE Area Code_____Number_____Extension_____

Librarian_____

Hours of service_____

Do you have a Special Collection on black people? Yes_____No_____
If no, stop here and return to address below

Does the Collection include manuscripts? Yes_____No_____

If yes, how many?_____

Are they cataloged or described? Yes_____No_____

Are there published or unpublished guides to your manuscript collection? Yes_____No_____. If yes, would you provide us with copies of your guides or descriptions? Yes____No_____

Does your library subscribe to and preserve black newspapers? Yes____ No_____. If yes, would you kindly provide us with a listing of these newspapers? Yes_____No_____. If no, may someone visit the collection for purpose of listing your holdings? Yes____No___

Does your library subscribe to and preserve black periodicals? Yes____ No____. If yes, would you kindly provide us with a listing of these periodicals? Yes_____No_____. If no, may someone visit the collection for purpose of listing your holdings? Yes___No____

Do you have any pre-1950 titles on the black experience in your collection? Yes___No___. If yes, are they housed separately? Yes____No____ Approximately how many volumes?_____

If a check list were provided, would you check your holdings against such a list of pre-1950 holdings? Yes_____ No_____
If no, may someone visit the collection for the purpose of checking your holdings? Yes____No_____

Do you know of any collection in your area in private hands that you feel should be included in this survey of Afro-American materials? Yes_____No_____

If yes, please give particulars

Do you have microfilm___microfiche___facilities in your library? Yes___ No___

RETURN TO: Casper L. Jordan, Atlanta University School of Library Service, Atlanta, Georgia 30314

THANK YOU

Appendix 3

Questionnaire Report

State	Number Sent	Number Returned	Number Out		Libraries With AAM	Libraries Without AAM
Alabama	38	21	17	*Special	1	7
Note: Jan. report - Participant correlated "questionnaires and direct contact" June report				Public	3	0
				Military	0	0
				Academic	10	0
					14	7
Georgia	189	73	116	Special	5	8
				Public	10	10
Note: 4 returned - "moved no-address"				Military	0	0
				Academic	16	20
					31	38
North Carolina	182	125	57	Special	5	18
				Public	45	13
				Military	0	0
				Academic	39	5
					89	36
South Carolina	240	46	194	Special	7	2
				Public	0	0
				Military	1	0
				Academic	19	2
				High School	10	5
					37	9
Tennessee	323	106	217	Special	16	9
				Public	21	15
				Military	0	1
				Academic	25	13
				Regional	0	6
					62	44
Virginia	317	306	11	Special	2	73
				Public	7	150
				Military	2	0
				Academic	6	66
					17	289
SUB-TOTAL				Special	36	117
				Public	86	188
				Military	3	1
				Academic	115	106
				High School	10	5
				Regional	0	6
TOTAL	1,289	677	612		250	423

*Special - Includes museum, medical etc.
Return Without Reports

Appendix 4

Questionnaire

INSTITUTION_____

LIBRARY_____
CITY_____STATE_____ZIP_____
PHONE Area Code_____Number_____Extension_____
Librarian_____
Hours of Service_____

The African-American Materials Project has received a grant to continue the work of identifying and coordinating materials by or about black people in six southern states. The emphasis in 1972-1973 will be on theses and oral history. We appreciate your cooperation in this project and hope that you will participate this year by answering the questions listed below.

_____

A. Do your holdings include theses by or about black people?
Yes_____No_____

1. If yes:
   a. How many items? _____
   b. Are they cataloged or described? Yes_____No_____
   c. Are published or unpublished guides to your thesis collection available?
      (1) If yes, please send copies.
      (2) If no, please list and describe your holdings in this area.

B. Has your library or institution:

1. engaged in an oral history project at any time? Yes___No____

   If yes, please give:
   a. Inclusive dates_____
   b. Sponsor of project_____
   c. Source of funds for project_____
   d. Cooperating institutions, if any_____

2. collected oral history records? Yes_____No_____

   If yes,
   a. How many tapes?_____
   b. How many tapes are transcribed?_____
   c. Is a list of these tapes/transcriptions available?
      (1) If yes, please send.
      (2) If no, please send a descriptive list.

PLEASE RETURN TO:

THANK YOU

Appendix 5

Revised Questionnaire Report
1972/73

State	Number Sent	Number Returned	Number Out		Libraries With AAM	Libraries Without AAM
Alabama	*	*	*	**Special		
				Public		
				Military	*	*
				Academic		
				Total		
Georgia	*	*	*	Special		
				Public		
				Military	*	*
				Academic		
				Total		
North Carolina	37	25	12	Special		
				Public	16	0
				Military		
				Academic	9	0
				Total	25	0
South Carolina	*	*	*	Special		
				Public		
				Military	*	*
				Academic		
				Total		
Tennessee	220	47	173	Special	2	7
				Public	1	28
				Military	1	1
				Academic	0	4
				Regional	0	3
				Total	4	43
Virginia	78	0	78	Special		
				Public		
				Military	*	*
				Academic		
				Total		
SUB-TOTAL				Special	2	7
				Public	17	28
				Military	1	1
				Academic	9	4
				Regional	0	3
TOTAL	335	72	263		29	43

*Do Not Have Figures **Special - Includes Medical Libraries

Appendix 6

These and Oral History Questionnaire Report
1972/73

State	Number Sent	Number Returned	Number Out		Libraries With AAM	Libraries Without AAM
Alabama	*	*	*	**Special	*	*
				Public		
				Military		
				Total		
Georgia	*	*	*	Special		
				Public		
				Military	*	*
				Academic		
				Total		
North Carolina	37	25	12	Special		
				Public	1	15
				Military		
				Academic	5	4
				Total	6	19
South Carolina	35	14	21	Special	0	0
				Public	0	0
				Military	0	0
				Academic	1	13
				Total	1	13
Tennessee	322	114	208	Special	4	22
				Public	2	43
				Military	0	1
				Academic	9	24
				Regional	0	9
				Total	15	99
Virginia	*	*	*	Special		
				Public		
				Military	*	*
				Academic		
				Total		
SUB-TOTAL				Special	4	22
				Public	3	58
				Military	0	1
				Academic	15	41
				Regional	0	9
TOTAL	394	153	241		22	131

*Do Not Have Figures
**Special - Includes Medical Libraries

28 — NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES Spring issue, 1973

The African-American Materials Project - OEG-0-71-3890

by Geraldine O. Matthews
Associate Director
African-American Materials Project
North Carolina Central University

In June 1971 the U. S. Office of Education awarded a grant of $53,265 to North Carolina Central University School of Library Science to identify and coordinate African-American materials in six southeastern states. Phase II of the project began on July 1, 1972 with an additional grant of $74,679. The cumulative amount for 1971-1973 is $127,944. The purpose of AAMP is to locate, describe and coordinate newspapers, periodicals, bibliographies, manuscripts, pre-1950 imprints, theses and oral history. During Phase I, the emphasis was placed on newspapers, periodicals and bibliographies. AAMP has continued to work on these forms of materials during Phase II in addition to manuscripts, pre-1950 imprints, theses and oral history.

The six states participating in the project are Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. The state coordinators who are conducting the state searches are Mr. Casper L. Jordan — Atlanta University, Georgia; Dr. Jessie C. Smith — Fisk University, Tennessee; Mr. Jason Grant III — Hampton Institute, Virginia; Mrs. Sadie Hughley — North Carolina Central University; Mrs. Lillie Walker — South Carolina State College; Mrs. Annie King — Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. AAMP headquarters are located in the James E. Shepard Memorial Library, North Carolina Central University. The staff consists of the Director — Dr. Annette L. Phinazee; Associate Director — Miss Geraldine O. Matthews and Library Assistant — Mrs. Edythe B. Jones. They are assisted by two student workers.

Planning sessions are held at intervals to establish and discuss field objectives, search techniques, problems and progress. The group decided to contact libraries, archives and private collectors and ask them to report their holdings in specific areas to the state coordinators. Concise questionnaires, accompanied by cover letters are used to gather data within the six states. Each of the six participating institutions has received allocations from the project's funds to defray miscellaneous costs. The major costs incurred are for personnel, field trips and materials needed to implement the project. Reports of holdings on cards, statistical data and narrative reports are forwarded to headquarters according to standardized reporting procedures and dates.

Results of activities are as follow:

AAMP compiled a finding list of over 1000 retrospective and current black periodicals and newspapers.

AAMP compiled a 414-page checklist of pre-1950 authors. The list includes over 16,000 authors from many countries. These lists were distributed to the state coordinators.

Many cards have been received from the six states in the areas of newspapers, periodicals, bibliographies, pre-1950 imprints, manuscripts and theses. Most have complete bibliographical information and location symbols. They are organized by form as received.

Several manuscripts and private collections have been located that have not been previously identified in published sources. Some have been placed in libraries and plans are being made to organize them.

AAMP received a $25,000 Special Purpose Grant under Higher Education Act, Title II-A (prepared by Pennie E. Perry of North Carolina Central University in consortium with Fisk University, Hampton Institute, South Carolina State and Tuskegee Institute). Each library received $5,000 to acquire expensive and infrequently used black materials in specific areas. This part of the project represents a beginning toward cooperative acquisitions.

The presidents of the six institutions were sent letters stressing the need for archival programs. Hampton has an especially strong program and has offered to share with others.

Efforts are made to identify similar projects and whenever possible to co-ordinate activities. Fisk has established a Black Oral History Program funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Alabama Center for Higher Education, a consortium of black colleges in the state, is sponsoring CEMBA — The Collection and Education of Materials by Black Americans and an Oral History Project.

The major problems encountered by the participants are insufficient time and personnel. The state coordinators have had to send follow-up letters, make telephone calls and visits.

Some librarians who received questionnaires have stated that they do not have the time or staff to check their holdings. In addition, some will not permit the cards to be removed by AAMP assistants and reproduced.

Many of the libraries within the region do not have special collections, therefore identification of material dispersed throughout the catalog has been difficult. This type of search is especially important in some of the rich collections of the large libraries and state archives where valuable material has been obscured for many years.

It appears that this project is the first formal effort to coordinate African-American materials on a regional basis. The participants have benefited from exchanges of information, discussion of common problems and professional association in a specialized area. National coordination is the ultimate goal.

The opportunity to locate materials is also an important feature of this project. The public has not usually been aware of those activities by librarians in the past and it has not been possible to provide financial assistance for field searches. The financial resources are limited, but this project does represent an initial thrust toward making the public appreciate and preserve the materials of a segment of the U. S. population whose history is in danger of being lost if steps are not taken to collect and maintain these sources.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF ANNETTE L. PHINAZEE TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO ITS SOUTHEAST REGIONAL HEARING ON 7 MARCH 1973

My statement addresses itself to the Commission's goals in the areas of user needs and adequacies and deficiencies of current services.

The lack of attention to the needs of African-American library users and the inadequacies and deficiencies of current services to persons who are interested in materials by and about black people are well documented. Adequate library services include provisions for the selection, acquisition, organization, and dissemination of information:

1. Selection of African-American materials has improved, but there are still gaps that may be attributed to the narrow subject range of materials available, the small number of writers and original works, and the bias of selectors.

2. Acquisition of materials has been constrained by high costs, particularly of reprints, and low budgets of libraries.

3. Organization of materials has been handicapped by the indifference of many who have rich collections, and the lack of support of others who are interested. There is no national center for the organization and preservation of African-American materials. Even the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution were late in demonstrating their interest and are still not placing sufficient emphasis upon this area.

4. Dissemination of library materials of any kind was denied to the majority of African-Americans until the 1960's. This is still the situation for many. For those to which services are now legally accessible the second step of reaching out has not been made—facilities and personnel are inadequate, patrons have not been motivated.

As a library educator, I have observed the need to develop librarians who are committed to reaching out, sensitive to the needs of all persons, and qualified to give superior service. All librarians who serve black people do not need to be African-Americans. However, my experience with users and employers is that it is desirable to have many more black librarians than we now have relating to black patrons, interpreting materials, and generally contributing to the "open" image of libraries.

Librarians who are more informed than I am can give specific figures to show that the proportion of black librarians is much too low. Some observers have expressed the opinion that predominantly white library schools have failed to recruit the number of black librarians required, and that there is a need for more than the one accredited black library school that exists. Some of the needs of schools such as ours are:

1. supplementary financial support
2. a larger supply of qualified teachers with doctoral degrees
3. more effective recruiting programs
4. curricula and instructional methods that are more relevant to the needs of African-Americans.

As a librarian, I share the views of the staff and participants in the African-American Materials Project who submit the following statement:

Our Project is a consortium of black academic librarians in Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. We are attempting to coordinate the holdings of African-American manuscripts, archives, newspapers, periodicals, theses, pre-1950 imprints, and oral history records that are available in these six states.

We have found that the whole area of the contributions of the black man in the arts has been relatively untouched. The publishing of the descriptive records in this field is another oversight on the part of the library and information science leaders.

A nucleus for a regional center has been developed through this project and there are findings from the experiences of this group that have implications for a national program or several regional programs. If the Commission is seriously interested in the "adequacies and deficiencies of current library and information services", a project such as AAMP expanded nationwide for African-American and other minority materials would be a "must" if this goal is to be realistically attained.

Appendix 9

Consortium Assignments

LIBRARY	SUBJECT AREA OF PURCHASE
Fisk University	Art, Drama, Education, Philosophy and Religion
Hampton Institute	English Language and Literature
North Carolina Central University	Science
South Carolina State College	History
Tuskegee Institute	Social Science